

BEFORE THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Gregory Scott
Joel Jacobs
Marshall Johnson
Edward Garvey
LeRoy Koppendraye

Chair
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner
Commissioner

In the Matter of **Independent Emergency Service, LLC's** Request for Approval of Certified Actual Costs Associated with the **Clearwater County** 911 Emergency Telephone Services System

ISSUE DATE: March 7, 2001

DOCKET NO. **P5270/ES-01-290**

ORDER APPROVING CERTIFIED 911 SYSTEM COSTS

BACKGROUND

On May 12, 1981, the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (the Commission) approved Clearwater County's final plan for the establishment of a 911 Emergency Telephone System.

On March 15, 1988, the Commission approved actual costs Garden Valley Telephone Company incurred for the capital costs of 911 central office equipment, central office annual recurring costs, 911 outswitching trunks and interexchange circuits for their Bagley, Minerva, Shevlin, Clearbrook, Gonvick, and Leonard Exchanges.

On February 8, 2001, the Commission approved actual costs incurred by Garden Valley Telephone Company for installing interexchange circuits and outswitch trunks from the Bagley, Clearbrook, Gonvick, Leonard, Minerva, and Shevlin Exchanges to the Erskine Selective Router. to provide a portion Automatic Number Identification (ANI) services to the 911 Emergency Services system in Clearwater County.

CURRENT FILING

On August 10, 2000, Clearwater County contracted with Independent Emergency Services (IES) to provide tandem based ANI services.

On December 19, 2000, IES installed two, each, incoming trunk ports with 10 digit ANI for the Bagley, Clearbrook, Gonvick, Leonard, Minerva, and Shevlin Exchanges for future routing to the Erskine Router. The Company also installed four Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) ports for future circuits between the Jackson Exchange and the Ruthton Selective Router.

On December 21, 2000, IES certified the actual costs it incurred for the provision of trunk and PSAP ports for tandem based ANI service in the Clearwater County 911 Emergency Services system.

IES is now requesting Commission approval of the actual ANI system costs. Commission approval is necessary before the Department of Administration (DOA) will make payments for 911 system costs.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11, subd. 3 states:

Subd. 3 (METHOD OF PAYMENT; CERTIFICATION.) A public utility incurring reimbursable costs under subdivision 1 or 2 shall certify those costs to the commissioner of administration. The certification shall be in a form as prescribed by the commissioner after consultation with the public utilities commission. If the commissioner and the commission approve the certified costs as appropriate and accurate, the commissioner shall pay the certified costs from money appropriated for that purpose within 90 days following receipt by the commissioner of the certified costs. The commissioner of administration shall estimate the amount required to reimburse public utilities for the state's obligations under subdivisions 1 and 2 of this section and the governor shall include the estimated amount in the biennial budget request.

Independent Emergency Services, LLC has certified, in writing, that the elements of 911 services and associated costs indicated on Attachment A, reflect only charges for services actually rendered in the direct provision of 911 service in Clearwater County.

All charges listed on Attachment A are in accordance with the Company's tariffs.

The Commission finds that the costs for 911 Emergency Telephone Service in Clearwater County which have been certified by the Company are appropriate and accurate.

Policy References:

Minn. Stat. Section 403.11 System Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1400 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Recurring Costs

Minn. Rules, pt. 1215.1500 Funding Eligibility/Payment of Central Office Modification Costs

ORDER

1. The costs identified on Attachment A accompanying this Order are approved as appropriate and accurate pursuant to the Commission's March 21, 2000 Standing Order Designating Filings Requesting Certification of 911 Costs As Filings Subject to Approval Under Minn. Stat. § 216A.03, Subd. 7, Docket No. P-999/CI-99-1723.
2. This Order does not approve payment of any 911 system costs. Any possible future approval of payment for system costs shall be granted by the Commissioner of the Department of Administration in accordance with the provisions of Minn. Stat. Section 403.11.
3. This Order shall become effective immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

Burl W. Haar
Executive Secretary

(S E A L)

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STATE OF MINNESOTA)
)SS
COUNTY OF RAMSEY)

AFFIDAVIT OF SERVICE

I _____, being first duly sworn, deposes and says:

That on the ____ day of _____, 2001 (s)he served the attached **Order Approving Certified 911 System Costs for Clearwater County 911 Emergency Telephone Service Docket No. P5270/ES-01-290.**

XX By depositing in the United States Mail at the City of St. Paul, a true and correct copy thereof, properly enveloped with postage prepaid

XX By personal service

XX By inter-office mail

to all persons at the addresses indicated below or on the attached list:

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PRODUCT ANALYST
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Subscribed and sworn to before me,

a notary public, this ____ day of

_____, 2001.

Notary Public